

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00

AGR-20 TAR-02 EA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 NIC-01 /169 W

----- 039356

R 201030Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4017

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EFIN COMECON UR

SUBJ: CEMA FOREIGN TRADE COMMISSION MEETS IN MOSCOW:
FURTHER COORDINATION

1. SUMMARY. THREE-DAY MEETING IN MOSCOW OF CEMA PERMANANT FOREIGN TRADE COMMISSION HAS GENERATED FURTHER CEMA INTEGRATION ACTIVITY, INCLUDING AGREEMENT ON SOVIET AID FOR POLISH STEEL MILL AND ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN EE OFFICIALS AND SOVIET MINISTRIES CONCERNED WITH FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS. LATTER INCLUDED FURTHER PLAN COORDINATION FOR PERIOD 1976-80. A SOVIET EAST GERMAN AGREEMENT ON PARTICIPATION IN AN ASBESTOS COMPLEX BEING CONSTRUCTED IN THE USSR IS IN LINE WITH STANDARD CEMA PROCEDURE FOR EE INVESTMENT IN RAW MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
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IN THE SOVIET UNION. END SUMMARY.

2. RECENT MEETING IN MOSCOW (NOV. 13-16) OF CEMA PERMANANT COMMISSION FOR FOREIGN TRADE HAS BEEN OCCASION FOR NEW ROUND OF ACTIVITY IN CEMA PLAN COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LONG-RANGE TARGETS.

3. PRESS REPORTS THAT "REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL CEMA COUNTRIES AND YUGOSLAVIA" PARTICIPATED IN MEETING, WITH NORTH KOREA AND NORTH VIETNAM ATTENDING AS OBSERVERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF CEMA BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ALSO PRESENT. IN ADDITION TO REGULAR BUSINESS ON MEETING'S AGENDA, FOLLOWING ALSO ACCOMPLISHED:

A) SOVIET AID TO POLAND --- ON NOV 14 SPECIAL DELEGATION LED BY VICE CHAIRMAN OF POLISH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FRANCIZEK KAIM SIGNED AGREEMENT FOR SOVIET ASSISTANCE IN CONSTRUCTION OF KOTOWICZ STEEL MILL AND CONTRACT FOR DELIVERY OF SOVIET EQUIPMENT. SIGNATURE CEREMONIES FOLLOWED DISCUSSIONS WITH GOSPLAN DIRECTOR NIKOLAI BAIBAKOV, CHAIRMAN OF SOVIET STATE COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS S.A. SKACHKOV, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SOVIET MINISTRIES IN HEAVY INDUSTRY SECTOR.

B) GDR INVESTMENT IN SOVIET ASBESTOS PLANT - ON NOV 16 EAST GERMAN OFFICIALS MEETING AT SOVIET MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE SIGNED A "BILATERAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT" WITH USSR FOR GDR PARTICIPATION IN CONSTRUCTION OF AN ASBESTOS MINING AND ENRICHING COMPLEX AT KIMBAEV IN THE USSR. BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT NOTED THAT KIMBAEV INSTALLATION WILL HAVE YEARLY OUTPUT OF 500,000 TONS AND THAT BULGARIA, POLAND, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND ROMANIA WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN ITS CONSTRUCTION.

C) CONSULTATIONS-- OVER THREE DAY PERIOD SOVIET MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE PATOLICHEV MET INDIVIDUALLY WITH GDR FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER SOELLE, BULGARIA FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER NEDEV, HUNGARIA FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BIRO, AND CUBAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER FERNANDEZ -FONT. SOVIET GOSPLAN DIRECTOR BAIBAKOV MET WITH POLISH MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE OLECHOWSKI AND POLISH VICE CHAIRMAN (18., AND SOVIZ STATE COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN SAKACHKOV MET WITH BULGARIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER NEDEV.

4. COMMENT: IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY OFFICER NO 16, GOSPLAN FOREIGN TRADE ADMINISTRATION CHIEF V. B. SPANDAR'YAN CONFIRMED THAT RECENT MEETING OF CEMA FOREIGN TRADE COMMISSION HAD BEEN EXCEPTIONALLY

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BUSY ONE. ASKED WHY, HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MAIN BUSINESS WAS PLANNING FOREIGN TRADE PICTURE FOR 1974-75, ATTEMPTS WERE ALSO BEING MADE TO FURTHER COORDINATE FOREIGN TRADE PLANS FOR PERIOD 1976-80. THIS CONSTITUTES THIRD EFFORT AT LONG-RANGE PLANNING SINCE CEMA COUNCIL MEETING IN PRAGUE IN JUNE.

5. A GENERAL AGREEMENT ON CONSTRUCTION OF KIMBAEV ASBESTOS COMPLEX WAS REACHED AT CEMA COUNCIL MEETING IN JUNE. SIGNING OF GDR-

USSR INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT, WHICH PRESUMABLY SPELLS OUT IN
DETAIL AMOUNT AND TYPE OF EAST GERMAN INVESTMENT, FOLLOWS STANDARD
CEMA PATTERN FOR SUCH PROJECTS. SIMILAR PROCEDURE,-OVERALL AGREEMENT
FOLLOWED BY SERIES OF SOVIET-EE BILATERALS - HAS BEEN FOLLOWED
FOR EAST EUROPEAN INVESTMENT IN CEMA-SPONSORED CELLULOSE COMPLEX
AT UST-ILIM IN CENTRAL SIBERIA.

6. IT IS INTERESTING, IN VIEW OF FINLAND'S SPECIAL RELATION-
SHIP WITH CEMA, THAT A FINNISH FOREIGN TRADE DELEGATION HAS BEEN
IN MOSCOW SINCE NOVEMBER 12 FOR TALKS ON FINNISH-SOVIET TRADE IN
1974. ALTHOUGH WE DOUBT THAT THERE WAS ANY OFFICIAL FINNISH
PRESENCE AT FOREIGN TRADE COMMISSION MEETING, TIMING OF FINLAND'S
TRADE NEGOTIATION WITH MAJOR COUNTRY IN CEMA WAS AT THE LEAST
CONVENIENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CEMA RELATIONSHIP.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, CONSTRUCTION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, MEETING DELEGATIONS, STEEL PLANTS, CONTRACTS, TRADE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW14463
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731123/aaaaaqmm.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <30-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CEMA FOREIGN TRADE COMMISSION MEETS IN MOSCOW: FURTHER COORDINATION
TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, UR, PL, COMECON, (KAIM, FRANCIZEK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005